

SOME NEW OR UNFIGURED AUSTRALIAN SHELLS.

By CHARLES HEDLEY, Conchologist.

SEVERAL collectors have contributed from the vicinity of the Jenolan Caves a well-marked race of *Thersites gulosa*. Mr. J. E. Wiburd found it among the playthings and decorations of a bower of the Satin Bower-bird, *Ptilinorhynchus violaceus*, Vieillot. An account of this, by Mr. A. J. North, has been published by Dr. R. B. Sharpe.¹

It may be named and defined as follows :—

THERSITES GULOSA, Gould, var. *DEPRESSA*, n. var.

In texture, colour, and sculpture, normal; but distinguished by greatly depressed spire and consequently wider umbilicus and flatter base. The ordinary faint keel is much exaggerated in the variety. Height, 10 mm.; maj. diam., 22 mm.; min diam., 20 mm.

NATICA SUBCOSTATA, Tenison Woods.

(Fig. 1).

Ten. Woods, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., ii., 1878, p. 263.

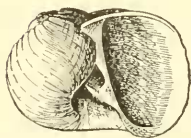


Fig. 1.

The accompanying drawing has been made from the type in the Australian Museum. Since it was prepared, Messrs. Pritchard and Gatliff have published illustrations and an improved description of the species from Victorian material.²

TRICHOTROPIS TORCULARIS, Tenison Woods.

(Fig. 2).

Cingulina torcularis, Ten. Woods, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., ii., 1878, p. 263; *Rissoa torcularis*, Tate, Proc. Roy. Soc. S.A., xxiii., 1899, p. 234.



Fig. 2.

As this species has not heretofore been figured, I have prepared the accompanying illustration from the type, now in this Museum. It seems to me that T. Woods erred in his choice of the genus and that the species would find a more natural place in *Trichotropis*. The shell is $3\frac{1}{2}$ mm. in length.

¹ Sharpe—Monograph Paradisidæ and Ptilonorhynchidæ, ii., 1891-8. Article on *P. violaceus*.

² Pritchard and Gatliff—Proc. Roy. Soc. Vic., xiii., 1, 1900, p. 132, pl. xx., figs. 1, 2, 3.

DRILLIA TRICARINATA, Tenison Woods.

(Fig. 3).

D. tricarinata, Ten. Woods, Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., ii., 1878, p. 265.

A figure from the type, now in the Australian Museum, is here presented. The original is 6 mm. long.



Fig. 3.

MANGELIA DESALESII, Tenison Woods.

(Fig. 4).

Ten. Woods, Proc. Roy. Soc. Tas., 1876 (1877), p. 138.

Great difficulty attends the identification of the unfigured species of T. Woods. To aid future determination of *M. desalesii*, a figure has been prepared from material in this Museum.

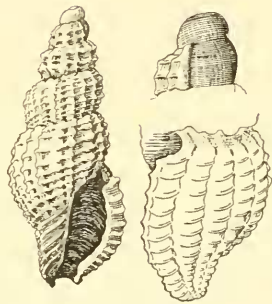


Fig. 4.

CARDITELLA DELTA, Tate & May.

(Figs. 5a, b).

Tate & May, Proc. Roy. Soc. S.A., 1900, p. 102.

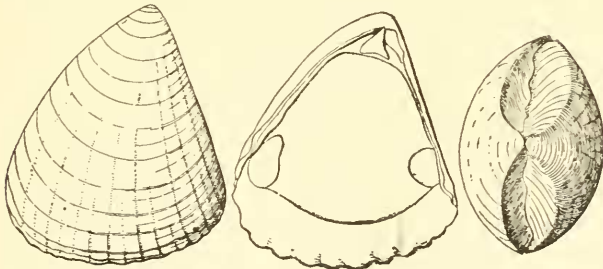


Fig. 5a.

✓ Previous to the appearance of the serial quoted, I had detected as new, and drawn and described this species from local material. The timely recognition of my specimens by Prof. Tate as *C. delta* has fortunately prevented reduplication of nomenclature.

The Museum collection includes eight examples, dredged in 1884, off Ball's Head, Sydney Harbour; and two dredged in 1880 by a Museum expedition in charge of Mr. (now Prof.) W. A. Haswell, at Broughton Islands, north of Port Stephens, New South Wales, in thirty-five fathoms. The latter are catalogued in the Annual Report of the Australian Museum for 1881, p. 22, as "No. 109, *Cardium* sp.?"

Southern examples appear to exceed those from New South Wales. The individual from Sydney, figured herewith, being 1.95 mm. in



Fig. 5b.

height, 1.6 mm. in length, and 1.05 mm. in breadth of conjoined valves. Since the description of *C. delta* does not touch on the hinge, I would point out that the umbo of the left valve is slightly cleft for the reception of the large, projecting, and upcurved cardinal tooth of the right valve. In this feature, the sinuous dorsal margin and the clasping of the valves there is a strong resemblance to *Corbula*.

When instituting *Carditella*,³ Smith expressed no opinion on its systematic position, but apparently treated it as one of the Carditidae. Bernard⁴ has placed the genus in his new family Condylocardiidae.

PHILOBRYA TATEI, *n. sp.*

(Fig. 6).

Valve subquadrate, rather inflated, thin. Colour uniform pale brown. Epidermis abundant, dense, membranous, projecting far beyond the margin of the valve, puckered into about seventeen radiating bristly crests. Prodissoconch of moderate size, rather flat, with thickened margin. Externally the valve has fine radiating riblets, corresponding to the epidermal crests and terminating in a small sharp point on the margin. Numerous low broad bars run continuously from riblet to riblet, appearing in each intercostal space like the rungs of a ladder. Within, the

³ Smith—Proc. Zool. Soc., 1881, p. 42.

⁴ Bernard—Journ. de Conch., xliiv., 1896 (1897), p. 170.

valve has a broadened margin, which, except for a space on the anterior side, is occupied by alternate pits and bosses, to the number of about twenty-five. These evidently serve to interlock the valves, and have no relation to the external riblets. Ligament

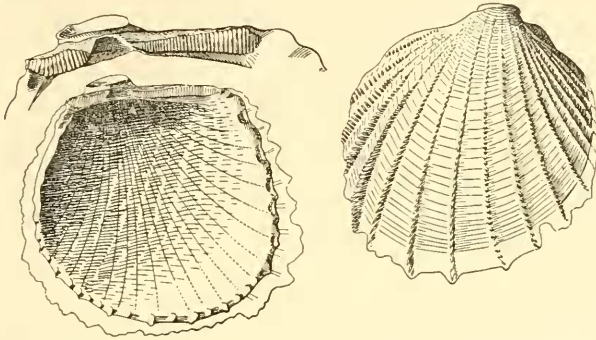


Fig. 6.

short, submedian. Anterior hinge crenulations long and well developed. Muscular scars indistinguishable. Height, 2.15 mm.; length, 2.1 mm.

Habitat.—Two complete specimens, apparently taken alive, were obtained in November, 1880, in thirty-five fathoms, off Broughton Islands, Port Stephens. They are enumerated as “No. 116, *Arca?* *sp. nov.*” in the Annual Report of the Australian Museum for 1881, p. 22. There are also three specimens in the Museum, labelled “Port Jackson.”

This species is easily distinguished as being less inequilateral than any member of the genus yet found. In agreement with comparative symmetry are the shorter ligament and better balanced hinge. It may be appropriately called by the name of one to whom we owe all our knowledge of the Australian *Philobrya*.⁵

PERIPLOMA MICANS, n. sp.

(Fig. 7).

Shell broadly ovate, rostrate, inequivalve, not thin but very brittle. Inside nacreous with a brilliant silvery lustre; where the thin surface layer has flaked off, the naere is visible outside. Beak fissured. Colour ochreous. Sculpture—there are a few low, broad concentric undulations, which are imprinted on the interior. The rostrum is defined by a narrow, shallow, but sharply impressed

⁵ Tate—Trans. Roy. Soc. S.A., xxv., pt. ii., 1898, p. 86.

strip descending from the umbo. The thin epidermis is puckered into raised threads, coarser posteriorly, which sometimes follow and sometimes obliquely cross the main sculpture. Where unworn

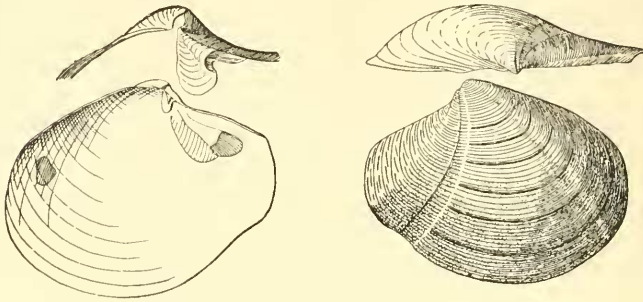


Fig. 7.

the surface seems minutely granular. The chondrophore is small, shallow, and directed downwards. Length, 15.5 mm.; height 11.2 mm.

The species is based on a single, rather worn, right valve, labelled by Mr. J. Brazier "five miles east of Sydney Heads, seventy-five fathoms." The depth should, I think, be forty-five fathoms. From that locality Mr. Brazier received a quantity of shells, including *Cassis thomsoni*,⁶ on June 3rd, 1874, when a party of Sydney naturalists was entertained on board "H.M.S. Challenger." I suppose that the specimen I describe was then obtained.

SAREPTA? TELLINAEFORMIS, *n. sp.*

(Fig. 8).

Shell equilateral, oval, tumid, thin and translucent; ventral margin more rounded than the dorsal, posterior end more produced than the anterior. Substance at first sight dull and porcellanous, but on close examination showing occasional pearly lustre. Umbo prominent, neither lunule nor area. Colour dull white. No radiating sculpture, but closely, evenly, and entirely covered with fine concentric hair lines. Ventral margin smooth. Hinge plate slightly arched, interrupted by a broad, shallow, projecting, oblique chondrophore. On the shorter, anterior portion, are about fifteen, and on the posterior about eighteen small teeth; the proximal lamellate, the distal forked. Above the margin, below the umbo, and communicating with the chondrophore is a small hemispherical ligament pit. Muscular scars faint, pallial line entire. Length, 9.5 mm.; height, 7.5 mm.

⁶ Brazier—Proc. Linn. Soc. N.S.W., i., 1875, p. 9.

Habitat.—With *Periploma micans* and other shells, this was labelled in Mr. J. Brazier's writing "seventy-five fathoms, five miles east of Sydney Heads."

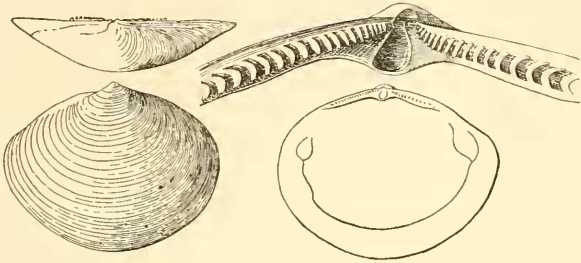


Fig. 8.

Three separate valves represent the species.

The novelty seems to resemble *Sarepta speciosa*, A. Adams,⁷ more than *S. abyssicola*, Smith.⁸ Neither illustration show the hinge structure clearly enough to enable me to draw a detailed comparison.

⁷ Crosse—Journ. de Conch., xvi., 1868, p. 41, pl. iv., fig. 1.

⁸ Smith—Chall. Rep., Zool., xvi., 1885, p. 243, pl. xx., fig. 6.